

subcylindricus, Double-toothed Barbets *Lybius bidentatus* and Eastern Grey Plantain Eaters *Crinifer zonurus*. They were readily identified by their prominent white throats contrasting with yellowish underparts, dark greenish-olive upperparts, and greyish-brown crown, nape and cheeks. In spite of their popular name their reddish-brown tails were not conspicuous except when caught in bright sunlight. However, their white throats were very noticeable and made them relatively easy to pick out in dark foliage.

REFERENCE

MANN, C.F. 1976. Some recent changes in our knowledge of bird distribution in East Africa. *Journal of the East Africa Natural History Society & National Museum* 157: 1-24.

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BARE-EYED THRUSH *TURDUS TEPHRONOTUS* FROM THE SELOUS GAME RESERVE

A single specimen of the Bare-eyed Thrush *Turdus tephronotus* was taken in a mist net set in wooded grassland at the edge of riverine thicket near Karl Jahn's Rufiji River Tented Camp, Selous Game Reserve (Rufiji District, Coast Region, Tanzania, c.7°47'S., 30°14'E.) on 25 May 1978. The bird, catalogued in the University of Dar es Salaam vertebrate collection as UDSM-B-137, was a female showing no sign of reproductive activity. Nymphal ticks of the genus *Amblyomma* were found on the bird; two were attached to the outer covering of the lower mandible and three were attached to the inner lining of the mandible inside the mouth.

This specimen and a record of a bird of this species examined (but presumably not collected or preserved) on 19 August 1974 by M.A. & G.A. Matzke (undated MS: The bird fauna of the Selous Game Reserve) considerably extend the range of this species as shown in Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1960) and Hall & Moreau (1970). We thank H. Hoogstraal and H.Y. Wassef for identification of the ticks.

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE JANUARY RANGE AND ABUNDANCE OF PALAEARCTIC DUCKS IN EAST AFRICA For the second year running the Ornithological Sub-committee of the East Africa Natural History Society has actively co-operated with the International Waterfowl Research Bureau in undertaking Palaearctic duck counts systematically (rather than on an *ad hoc* basis, as in the past) at about 30 localities. Most of these sites are on the Kenyan Rift Valley lakes, smaller waters in the western highlands and waters nearer Nairobi although one Ugandan water and two localities in Tanzania were also covered in 1979.

Table 1 gives the list of waters covered in January during at least one season and the species of Palaearctic duck, with some indication of abundance, found on each water.

Due, no doubt to the wet conditions in both years north of the equator, no single species concentrations reached four-figure proportions, although numbers were generally slightly higher in January 1979 than